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# CABIN concrete masonry construction

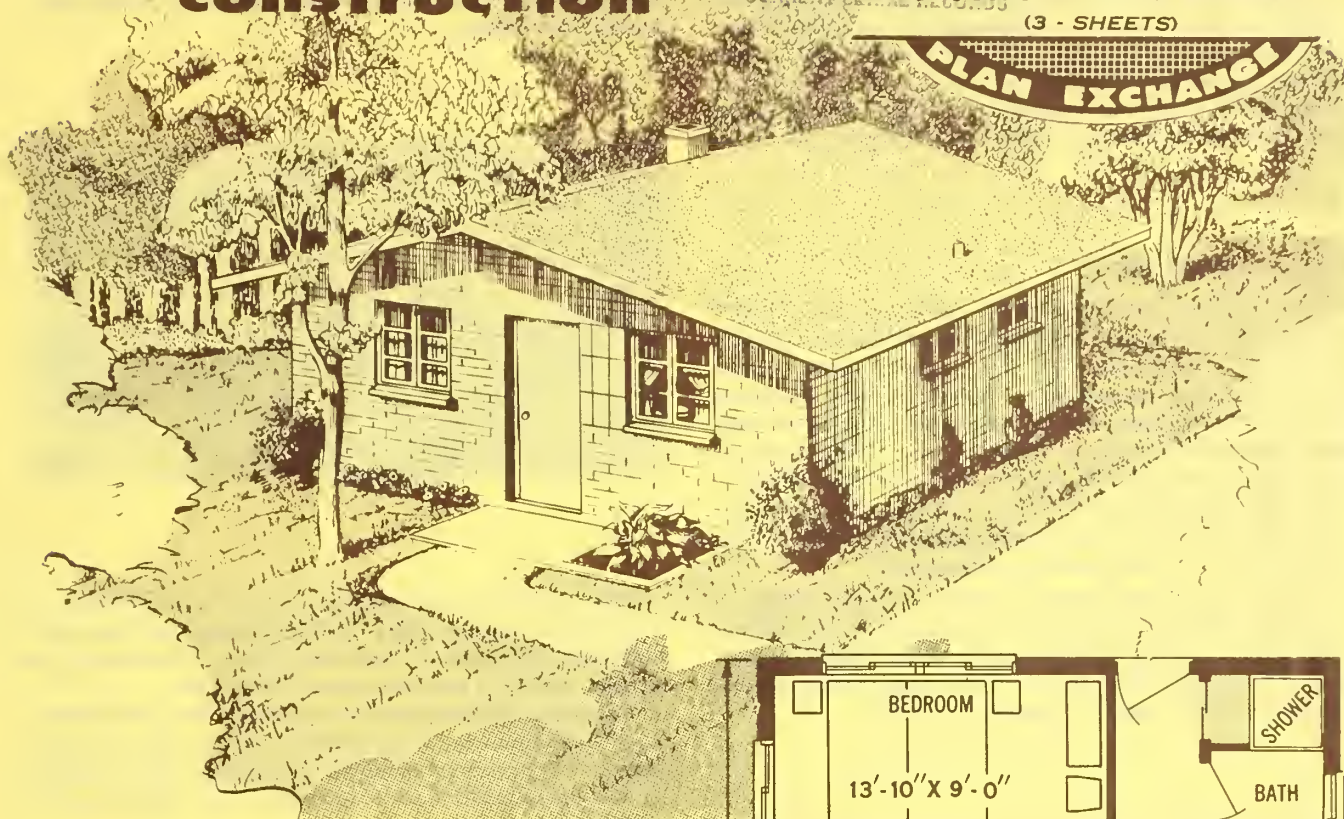
APR 21

COOPERATIVE  
FARM BUILDING

Plan No. 5968

(3 - SHEETS)

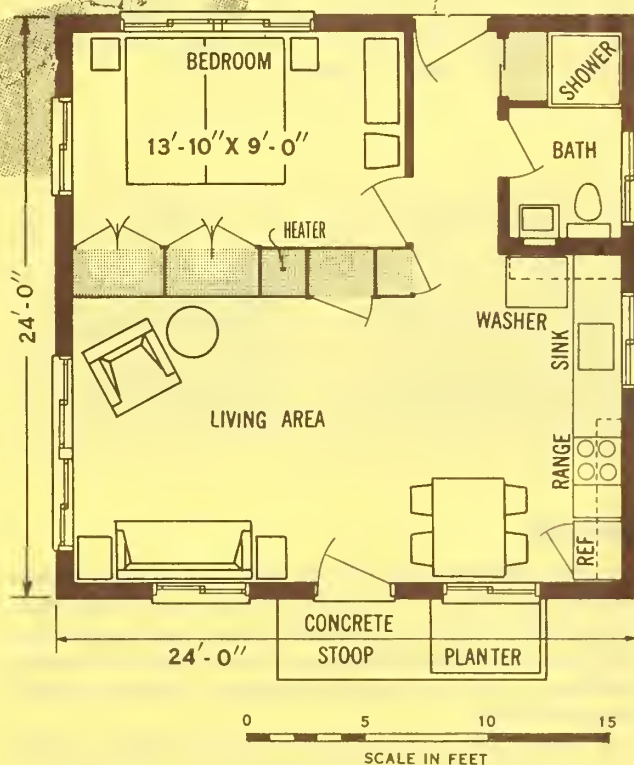
PLAN EXCHANGE



Concrete masonry is suggested for this modern cabin because it is low in cost, durable, easy to maintain, and attractive.

In this cabin, complete kitchen facilities combine with the living-dining area to form a unified activities center for the family. Though the basic plan calls for one bedroom, the activities center is large enough for a family needing three bedrooms. The two extra bedrooms may be added at the rear, as suggested in the working drawings, without alteration of the present rooms or equipment. A bath with shower, a space for a washer, and good storage facilities contribute to the pleasant convenience of living in this cabin.

The other side of this sheet has suggestions on insulation, finishing materials, painting, and block selection. These ideas, along with personal preference for trim and for paint color combinations, provide a means for giving warmth and character to the cabin. Further help and suggestions are available from the Portland Cement Assoc., which cooperated in the development of this plan.



## CABIN AREA:

	Square feet
Basic area .....	576
Two-bedroom-addition area .....	288

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## INSULATION:

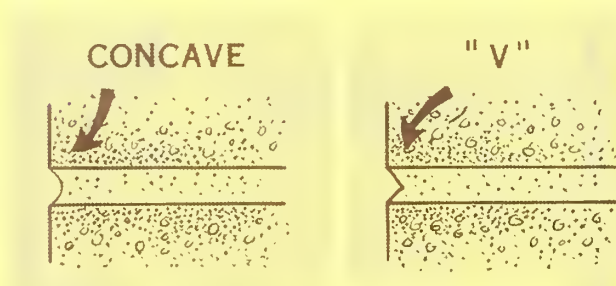
Insulation above the ceiling is recommended for cabins built in any climate for any season of use. It may be either loose fill or batt type. For winter use, vermiculite fill in the cores of the blocks and foamed semirigid insulation about the perimeter of the floor slab are necessary for comfort. Lightweight-aggregate blocks are recommended because they have much better insulating properties than the more dense concrete blocks with sand and gravel aggregate. Lightweight blocks are easier to handle, and nails can be driven into them.

## BLOCK SELECTION:

The working drawings show 4- by 8- by 16-inch block units, which give horizontal mortar lines at 4-inch intervals. These relatively close spaced mortar joints have a pleasing appearance. However, they increased the in-place, finished cost by one-third, compared with the standard 8- by 8- by 16-inch units. This increase amounts to about \$175 (1966 prices) for this cabin.

Properly tooled joints are very important to the overall good appearance and watertightness of the walls. Concave or "v" joints are recommended.

When mortar in joints is "thumb print" hard, it should be firmly pressed into the concave or "v" formation with a tooling device that is wider than the joint and 24 to 36 inches long. This long tooling device makes straight, uniform horizontal joints.



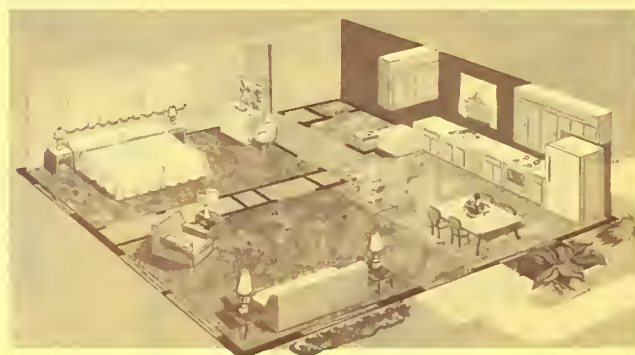
## FINISHES:

Apply interior-wall, ceiling, and floor finishes before erecting partitions. This saves cutting and fitting labor. Ceiling tiles made of insulating board are popular for this type of construction because they require no further finishing. Low cost asphalt tiles serve well over a concrete floor slab.

A latex paint is recommended for the interior walls. It is easy to apply and economical, well suited for masonry and the other inside materials. The exterior masonry walls should have a base coat of portland cement paint (a special cement powder to be mixed with water) for watertightness. Apply this with a stiff-bristle scrub brush to fill the pores of the block. The second exterior coat should be an acrylic resin, outside latex paint.

## INTERIOR PARTITIONS:

Clear span of the roof trusses permits free placement of interior partitions and, if the partitions are not hindered by wiring or plumbing, their easy movement for remodeling. Partitions should be slightly less than ceiling height, and wedged at the bottom to press them against the ceiling.



The working drawings show construction details of the storage wall dividing the living area and bedroom. Built from standard 4- by 8-foot sheets of material, the storage wall is 2 feet deep and 8 feet high.

Perforated hardboard is suggested for closet doors and backs, both for its decorative quality and for ventilation. Commercial brackets and hooks can be placed in the perforated board to make the storage more usable.

Construction of the heater enclosure will depend on the type of heating unit to be installed.

## HOW TO ORDER PLANS

Complete working drawings may be obtained from your extension agricultural engineer at your State University. There may be a small charge to cover cost of printing.

If you do not know whom to contact in your State, send your request to Agricultural Engineer, Federal Extension Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D.C. 20250. He will forward your request to the correct university.

ORDER PLAN NO. 5968, CABIN.



